

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This is a Divisional of Application No. 09/959,952

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

This is a divisional of Application No. 09/959,952, filed November 13, 2001; the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Page 12, first full paragraph:

These coloring agents may be used singly or in combination of two or more. However, the coloring agent(s) should preferably be used in an amount of 15 to 5 parts by weight, and especially 6 to 12 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of binder resin. At greater than 15 parts by weight the fixability and transparency of the toner become low whereas at less than 5 ~~part~~parts by weight any desired image density may not be obtained.

Paragraph bridging page 32 and page 33:

The encapsulating resin particles are spherical particles obtained by soap-free emulsion polymerization and having an average particle diameter of 0.05 μ m to 1 μ m, preferably 0.1 to 0.8 μ m, and more preferably 0.15 μ m to 0.4 μ m. With encapsulating resin particles having a mean particle diameter less than 0.05 μ m, their own object cannot be fully accomplished, because the encapsulating resin particle layer should have a small thickness for the purpose of imparting heat resistance to the toner. Encapsulating resin particles, when they have an average particle diameter greater than 1 μ m, have difficulty in their uniform deposition to the surface of the colored resin particle, resulting in a surface coverage drop and, hence, no sufficient improvements in toner clea ability, heat resistance, etc. When such particles are used for the purpose of imparting heat resistance to the toner, they are likely to be affected by the colored resin particles. Further, large encapsulating resin particles have difficulty in their firm fixation to the surface of the colored resin particle. The encapsulating

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resin particle should preferably have an average particle diameter that is 1/5 or less of the average particle diameter of the colored resin particle.

Paragraph bridging page 35 and page 36:

For the rearrangement of particle ~~diameter~~diameter whereby the encapsulating resin particles deposited to the colored resin particle are fused to one another to form a resin coating layer and the particle diameter of the releasing agent particles dispersed in the vicinity of the surface of the colored resin particle is increased, the particles are heat treated using the hot-air spheronizer "Surfusing System SFS-3 Type (made by Nippon Pneumatic Industries Co., Ltd.) under the following running conditions. As specified in conjunction with the first dry toner for electrophotography, the temperature of hot air at the inlet is 250 to 350 °C, the flow rate of hot air is 0.6 to 1.5 m³/min. per unit area (with the sectional area of the hot-air being 1.26 x 10⁻³m², the length of heat treating zone being about 0.4m, and the flow rate of the hot-air per unit area being 1.0 m³/min. corresponding to the flow velocity of 15 m/sec. of the hot-air), the input of the raw feed is 0.5 to 1.4 kg/hr. per unit area, and the time of contact of the raw feed with hot air is 0.01 to 1.0 sec.

Page 37, third full paragraph:

The third dry toner for electrophotography according to the present invention is produced as is the case with the aforesaid second electrophotographic dry toner production process with the exception that the heat treatment conditions are modified or varied. This electrophotographic dry toner is different from the second dry toner for electrophotography in terms of what state the releasing agent is present in. In other words, each colored resin particle is coated with said resin coating layer with the releasing agent is interleaved between

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them.- The resin coating layer has a thickness of 0.05 μm to 1 μm while the releasing agent layer has a thickness of 0.001 μm to 0.01 μm and preferably 0.004 μm to 0.008 μm .

Page 58, first full paragraph:

The composition of the heat-treated particle was analyzed as in Example 5 in its depth-wise direction. It was consequently found that the releasing coating layer was 0.17 μm and the ~~releasing~~releasing agent layer was 0.004 μm .